

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

The following claim set replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) Process for the preparation of melamine comprising ~~bringing together in a first mixing step preparing at least two melamine-containing flows originating from in at least two different processes for the preparation of melamine from urea which differ from one another in at least one of process operations needed to obtain melamine or which differ from one another in at least one sequence of process operations, and bringing together in a first mixing step the at least two melamine-containing flows~~ to form a mixture thereof.

2. (previously presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein at least one melamine-containing flow contains gaseous and/or liquid melamine, and wherein the process further comprises cooling the mixture in a cooling step, during or after the first mixing step, to a temperature below 250°C.

3. (previously presented) Process according to claim 2, wherein the cooling step comprises bringing the mixture into contact with an aqueous phase.

4. (previously presented) Process according to claim 2, wherein at least one of the melamine-containing flows contains water as a continuous phase, and wherein the cooling step is practiced during the mixing step by mixing the at least one melamine-containing flow which contains water as the continuous phase with at least one other melamine-containing flow.

5. (previously presented) Process according to claim 2, wherein the cooling step comprises bringing the mixture into contact with gaseous and/or liquid ammonia.

6. (previously presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the melamine-containing flows contains melamine from a low-pressure gas-phase process for the preparation of melamine, and at least one other of the melamine-containing flows contains melamine from a high-pressure liquid-phase process for the preparation of melamine.

7. (previously presented) Process according to claim 1, comprising a second mixing step, during or after the first mixing step, which comprises bringing the mixture into contact with an aqueous phase, followed by a crystallization step which comprises cooling the mixture by at least 5°C to form solid melamine, followed by a separation step comprising isolating the solid melamine from the mixture.

8. (previously presented) Process according to claim 7, further comprising dissolving virtually all the melamine in a dissolving step during or after the second mixing step and prior to the crystallization step with the aid of heating and/o the addition of an aqueous flow.

9. (previously presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the melamine-containing flows contains water as a continuous phase, and wherein the mixture after the first mixing step is subjected to a crystallization step which comprises cooling the mixture by at least 5°C to form solid melamine, followed by a separation step which comprises isolating the solid melamine from the mixture.

10. (previously presented) Process according to claim 9, wherein the melamine-containing flow which contains water as the continuous phase contains melamine originating from a low-pressure gas-phase process and is saturated to between 70% and 110% with melamine.

11. (previously presented) Process according to claim 7, wherein at least one of the melamine-containing flows contains melamine from a low-pressure gas-phase

process for the preparation of melamine, and at least one other of the melamine-containing flows contains melamine from a high-pressure liquid-phase process for the preparation of melamine.

12. (previously presented) Process according to claim 8, wherein the mixture is subjected to a purification step after the dissolving step and prior to the crystallization step, and wherein the purification step comprises:

- treating the mixture with NH_3 at a pressure between 1 MPa and 20 MPa and a temperature between 100°C and 250°C ,
- and optionally conducting an adsorption step and/or a filtration step.

13. (previously presented) Process according to claim 7, comprising cooling the mixture in the crystallization step to a temperature between 100°C and 25°C .